



***Message of blessings and good wishes from His Holiness Sri Swami Satchidanandaji Maharaj***

It gives me great pleasure to send my greetings, blessings, and best wishes to the Dhananjayans, to Padmarani, to the Fine Arts Society, and to the success of their joint venture: The Natya-Adyayana Gurukulam Camp.

From Vedic times, art in India has been spiritual, developing and flourishing in the precincts of temples, aspiring to reflect the divinity of human beings through their creative faculties; thus, it is regarded as Yoga and as a means of self-realization.

Bharatha Natyam expresses, in a unique way, the original harmony in God, humanity and nature. Music and dance have no frontiers. They speak a universal language and have universal appeal.

To the Dhananjayans, their art is both a philosophy and a religion. As ambassadors of Indian culture, their performances around the world have received enthusiastic praise and international acclaim. Through their religious themes, based on all religions, they have established that art transcends man-made intolerances and differences. Watching them perform is a rare aesthetic experience. Their Academy of Fine Arts, the Bharatha Kalanjali, stands as a monument to the affirmation of the unity of art and religion.

The Dhananjayans' magnificent record as international celebrities has in no way affected their utter humility and sense of dedication. I found in them the finest example of a true Indian couple.

I have followed Padmarani's achievements from the time she joined the Fine Arts Society of Kandy as a student at the age of six. First as a dedicated student of Bharatha Natyam, as a dancer of repute earning accolades from audiences and critics alike, and as a most committed teacher with many presentations to her credit.

Padma is indeed worthy of her distinguished mentors, Padmasri Adyar K. Lakshman and the V.P. Dhananjayans.

Following in the footsteps of her distinguished forefathers who for generations have devoted their patronage to the study and promotion of the Divinity of this Art, to Padma this dance form is not only her art and career, it is also a devotion and form of worship. This quality along with her exceptional talent and dedication makes her great. Through her gifted teaching, her Western students are able to taste the divine nectar of Bharatha Natyam in its pure classical tradition.

Imparting knowledge the ecumenical way is the goal of the Fine Arts Society. Hence, it is most fitting that the Dhananjayans, assisted by Padma, conduct this Bharatha Natyam Summer Camp to promote universal peace, goodwill, and harmony in its highest sense, within and without.

May the blessings of the Lord of Dance, Nataraja, forever abide with the Dhananjayans, Padma, and the Fine Arts Society, in their noble service to humanity.

**Inaugural Message of 1989**

## Travel Information

Closest City: CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
(40 miles north of Yogaville - travel time 1 hour and 20 minutes))

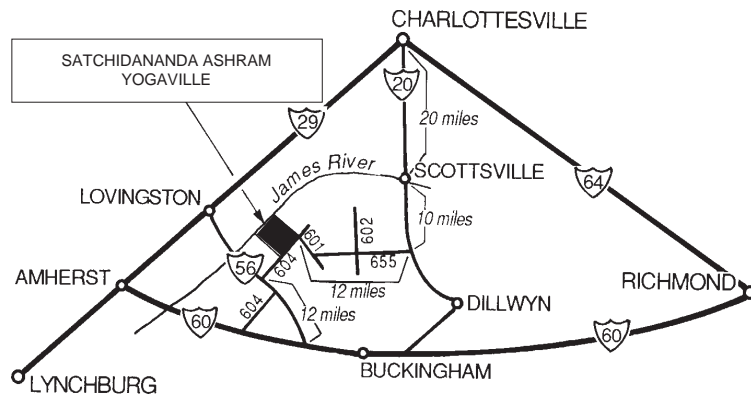
In making your travel arrangements, public transportation from your area into Charlottesville is available via Amtrak, Greyhound Bus, or the following airlines: US Air, United Express (United Airlines), and Comair (Delta).

There is no public transportation from Charlottesville to Yogaville. You may wish to rent your own car from the airport. **Rental Cars Agencies:** Avis, Budget and Hertz rental car companies are located at the airport and in the city.

If you wish to arrange transportation through the Ashram, kindly contact Gloria Bat-El at 1-800-858-9642 / arc@iyiva.org. We are not able to provide pick-up/drop-off service for any city except Charlottesville, Va. Ground transportation from Charlottesville Airport, Train Station or Coach Station to Yogaville needs to be pre-arranged. If transport is needed, please inform ARC (Ashram Reservations Center) 3 weeks before Camp with clear **DETAILS OF ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE. Transportation is not available before 7:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m.**

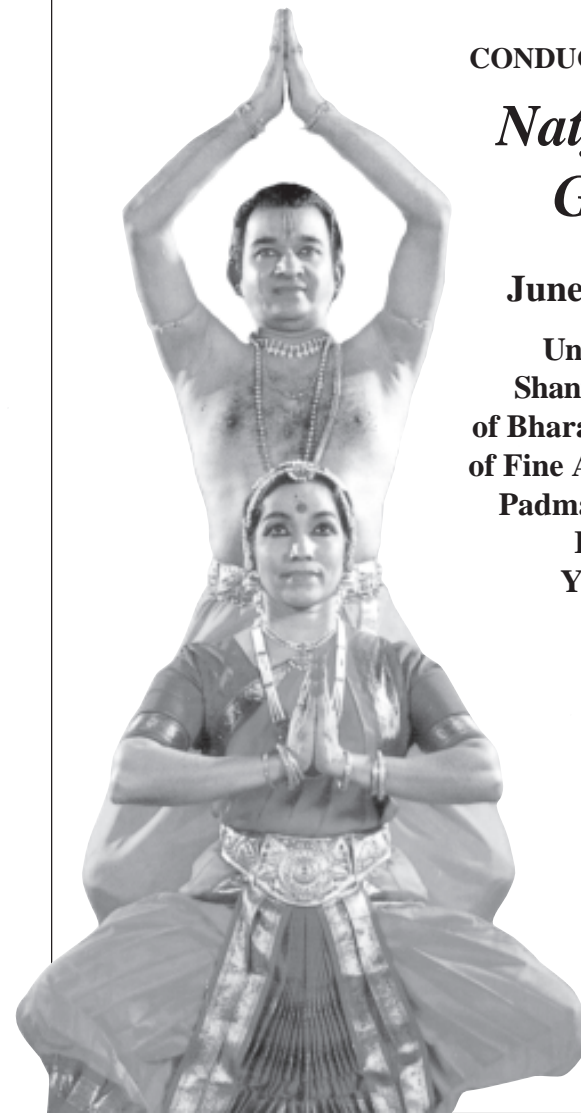
**Students should leave by 12:00 noon on Saturday, July 21.**

*Wishing you peace and joy, love and light!*



***Fine Arts Society  
Satchidananda Ashram – Yogaville***

## THE FINE ARTS SOCIETY OF YOGAVILLE



***Shantha and Dhananjayan***



***Padmarani***



### FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville • Buckingham, Virginia 23921  
(434) 969-3210 • prcan2@hotmail.com • www.yogaville.ORG  
Calls: 9 am - 12 Noon, 4 pm - 6 pm Only (E.S.T.)

***Bharatha Natyam Summer Camp***



***His Holiness  
Sri Swami Satchidanandaji Maharaj  
Founder/Spiritual Guide of the  
Fine Arts Society attained Mahasamadhi  
on August 19th, 2002  
His all abiding Love and Blessings  
are with us forever.***

His Holiness Sri Swami Satchidanandaji Maharaj, one of the most revered Yoga masters of our age is considered an apostle of peace by many. His Holiness’ teachings are dedicated to the principle that “Truth is One, Paths are Many.”

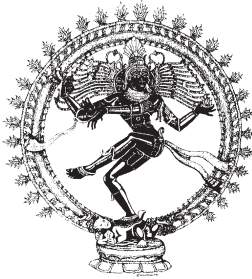
As an exponent and teacher of Integral Yoga®, His Holiness encouraged the fine arts of music, dance and drama—of all cultures and traditions—to affirm the unity of art and religion and to promote universal peace and goodwill. At his Ashram in Sri Lanka and at Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville, His Holiness inaugurated a Fine Arts Society to express the devotional aspect of Yoga through music, art and dance. Bharatha Natyam, the traditional and spiritual dance form of India, emphasizing discipline of mind and supreme devotion, was recognized by His Holiness as one of the highest forms of Yoga.

### ***Yogaville***

Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville is situated in Buckingham County, surrounded by the beautiful Virginia countryside. The Ashram covers nearly 750 acres of woodland on the banks of the James River, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. A wide range of guest programs, cultural programs, dance and music lessons, workshops and retreats are offered at Yogaville. To the vast number of Sri Swamiji’s students and devotees who rush to the Ashram from time to time to get away from the troubled, hectic lives of the cities, Yogaville offers a "heaven on earth." The breathtaking scenic beauty and the peaceful, conducive atmosphere of Yogaville offer a wonderful home-away-from-home to all participants of the Bharatha Natyam Summer Camp.

### ***LOTUS***

The Light Of Truth Universal Shrine (LOTUS) is a Shrine dedicated to the Light of all faiths and to world peace. Unique to the world, LOTUS is the spiritual center of Yogaville. Open to everyone, the shrine is an embodiment of Sri Swami Satchidanandaji’s teaching: TRUTH IS ONE, PATHS ARE MANY. LOTUS offers the participants of Bharatha Natyam Summer Camp an insight into universal Peace and Harmony.



The dancing foot, the sound of tinkling bells,  
The songs that are sung and the varying steps  
The forms assumed by our dancing Gurupara—  
Find out these within yourself, then shall your fetters fall away.

### ***Course Content\****

**This course is open to students of all art forms of all levels. (Those 10 years of age and over may apply.)**

The 3 week intensive, full time residential course will cover:

1. Origin, development and underlying philosophy of Bharatha Natyam.
2. The basics, both in practical and theoretical aspects of Bharatha Natyam.
3. Bharatha Natyam Repertoire Class.
4. South Indian Carnatic Music, singing lessons.
5. Lectures covering various aspects of dance literature and Indian cultural heritage.
6. An insight into the ancient, traditional Gurukula (apprenticeship) method of study.
7. Guided meditation, bhajan and hatha yoga.
8. An insight into the doctrine of good living—once a week participation at Satsang.

**\*Groups will be divided according to levels, by the teachers.**

### ***Dress Code***

<b>Females</b>	Casual attire - Sari, Salwar, Kameez, long skirt and blouse.
	Dance attire - Kurta (fitting not baggy) and Pyjama/Dance Sari (4 sets).
	Yoga attire - Loose fitting T-shirt and long pants (2 sets) +1 white set for yoga presentations.
<b>Males</b>	Casual attire - Pyjama and Kurta, Dhoti
	Dance attire - Sleeveless or fitting short sleeved T-shirt and 3-4 yards Dhoti (4 sets).
	Yoga attire - Loose fitting T-shirt and long pants (2 sets) +1 white set for yoga presentations.

### ***Certification***

On completion of the full course a performance by students will be held at the Ashram, and certificates will be awarded.

### ***Facilities and Food***

Comfortable accommodations in beautiful, modern ranch-style house overlooking the historic James River and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Dance studio for practice and dance lessons. Wholesome vegetarian meals will be served daily. Fruit drinks, milk and fruits will also be provided.

**\*Alcohol, illegal drugs, meat products, and tobacco are not allowed in Yogaville.**

***Detailed information required for participation will be sent upon registration.***

### ***Fine Arts Society of Yogaville***

**Aims:** 1) To propagate the Fine Arts of music, dance, drama, and others among people of all nations, races, and creeds, with respect for the various traditions and cultures of the world. 2) To affirm the unity of art and religion. 3) To promote peace and goodwill and emphasize harmony in its highest sense within and without.

The Fine Arts Society, inaugurated in 1984, embraces as its students children of all nationalities, races and creeds. Bharatha Natyam and piano lessons are conducted in Yogaville on request. Regular Bharatha Natyam classes are given at Charlottesville and Richmond branch centers in Virginia. Our students are invited to perform in cultural events at various schools, colleges and universities.

The society's annual celebrations with music and dance recitals are the most enjoyed events by art lovers. From 1989, annual residential Natya Adyayana Gurukulam (Summer Dance Camps) are being conducted by the Society in Yogaville. All classes are taught by world renowned teachers and dancers V.P. Dhananjayans from Chennai and Padmarani Rasiah-Cantu, resident dance instructor of the Society. Bharatha Natyam Teachers' Workshops are also conducted in Yogaville by one of the foremost teachers of the day, Padmasri Adyar K. Lakshman from Chennai whenever possible.

In addition, artists of all traditions and cultures have performed by invitation. Imparting knowledge the ecumenical way, the society endeavors its best to uphold its aims and affirm the unity of art and religion through music and dance.

### ***The Dhananjayans***

Shantha and Dhananjayan are one of the foremost couple dancers of India. They are acknowledged as “new trend setters” in classical traditions and have given new dimensions to choreography in Indian dance theater. As teachers, par excellence, they are held in high esteem in the realm of Indian classical dancers. The dance academy Bharatha Kalanjali they founded in Chennai in 1968 is an eloquent testimony to their cultural integrity, preservation, and popularization of the art and culture. As highly motivated educators, they have recently founded a new art integrated educational center in Kerala, a promise for the new era, known as Bhaarateeya Saamskaarika kala Rangam (in short BHAASKARA) which means sun.

Directing and teaching in the annual dance camps conducted by the Fine Arts Society of Yogaville, Virginia, USA, in the traditional Gurukulum style for the past eighteen years is proof of the Dhananjayans’ ability to teach with a perfect understanding of the psychology of children born and raised in countries outside India.

### ***Padmarani Rasiah Cantu***

Padmarani, born in Sri Lanka, combines versatility with an international reputation as a dancer and teacher par excellence. She studied with the distinguished master teachers Padmasri Adyar K. Lakshman and the VP Dhananjayans of Chennai, India, and has performed extensively in many other countries and in the United States, earning accolades from audiences and critics alike. From 1984, Padmarani has been the dance director and instructor of the Fine Arts Society of Yogaville in Buckingham, Virginia. She has presented many of her students for dance graduation and teaches along with the Dhananjayans at the annual dance camp conducted by the Fine Arts Society.

As a selected artist with the Virginia Commission for the Arts-Tour Directory for the past seventeen years, cultural and educational institutions in Virginia benefit from her expertise in performing and teaching this art form in all its pure and pristine glory.

### ***Bharatha Natyam***

Bharatha Natyam, is an ancient form of Temple dance. Unique, Eternal, and Universal, it is one of the most subtle and graceful styles of dance art in the world. Born within the precincts of the Temple, Bharatha Natyam uses the rich repertoire of Hindu mythology as a fine medium of expression. This highly developed stylized and sophisticated art form gives aesthetic delight to art lovers around the world.